



# NEWS RELEASE

## NELSON P. COHEN UNITED STATES ATTORNEY DISTRICT OF ALASKA

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Wednesday, August 29, 2007**

**#07-124**

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Nelson P. Cohen announced today, August 29, 2007, that Alan J. Veys, of Longview, Washington, and James E. Jairell, of Laramie, Wyoming, each received a sentence of one month imprisonment for violations of the Lacey Act for their roles in illegally guiding hunters for Black Bears on Kupreanof Island.

Veys, the owner of Pybus Bay Lodge, located on Admiralty Island, was found guilty and sentenced by Magistrate Judge Phillip M. Pallenberg to one misdemeanor count of conspiracy in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 for conspiring to violate the Lacey Act. As part of his sentence, Veys received one month incarceration, 12 months of supervised release, a \$14,000 fine, and restitution to the State of Alaska in an amount of \$6,000 to be paid jointly and severally with codefendant James Jairell. Both defendants have lost their hunting privileges for a period of three years.

James Jairell was sentenced by Senior United States District Court Judge H. Russel Holland for two felony violations of the Lacey Act, one involving conspiracy to violate the Lacey Act, and the other a violation of the False Labelling provisions of the Lacey Act. As part of his sentence, Jairell received a sentence of one month imprisonment, 5 months of home confinement, a \$10,000 fine, made payable to the Lacey Act fund, and restitution to the State of Alaska in an amount of \$6,000 to be paid jointly and severally with codefendant Alan Veys.

The government's investigation established that Veys and Jairell cooperated together in contracting for and providing illegal guiding for Black Bears in Southeast Alaska. The investigation disclosed that Jairell lied about his Alaska residency status numerous times on his big game guide applications in order to gain his guide operators license. Beginning in 2000, Jairell applied for a Class A, Assistant big game guide license from the State of Alaska. In that application Jairell misstated his hunting experience and residency status, claiming Alaska residency when in fact he was a resident of the State of Wyoming. Veys, the operator of the Pybus Point Lodge on Admiralty Island in Southeast Alaska, along with Jairell, contracted with lodge clients to provide them with guiding services for black bear hunts based out of the lodge. A five-day fishing and guided black bear excursion at the lodge was priced at approximately \$4,000 per client when neither Veys nor Jairell were lawfully registered big game guides. Between 2000 and 2001 nine black bear hunts for clients of the lodge were illegally conducted.

Jairell was also sentenced for his filing false paperwork in June, 2001, to the Petersburg, Alaska office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. In that instance, Jairell filed a temporary bear sealing certificate which was falsely marked to indicate the hunt was not guided.

Mr. Cohen commended the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement, United States Forest Service, Law Enforcement and Investigations, and the Alaska Department of Public Safety, Division of Wildlife Troopers, for the investigation leading to the successful prosecution of Veys and Jairell.

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